

# Already vs. All Ready

Another source of confusion among writers are the word already and the phrase all ready. Although they may sound identical, they have completely different uses.

Already is an adverb used to describe something that occurred prior to a specified or implied time or as early as now. Since already refers to time, it may mean “by this time” or “by the time mentioned.”

“The eyes and the figures confirm Joe Root is already in rarified company”

[The Guardian](#)

“Enough About the Free Windows Upgrades Already, These Alternate Operating Systems Are Always Free”

[Forbes](#)

“This Is How Insanely Big ‘Pokemon Go’ Is Already”

[Time](#)

On the other hand, all ready is a two-word phrase which means “completely prepared” or denotes that everyone in a group is prepared.

You can use all ready to add more emphasis compared to just using the word prepared. Take a look at these:

“Hot property: After a decade, she’s all ready to sell”

[Seattle Times](#)

“Real Ale event all ready to run alongside Hull Folk and Maritime Festival this weekend”

[Hull Daily Mail](#)

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“Reporting from the RNC: Delegates all ready to party”

Mohave Valley News

Here’s a quick tip:

In order to avoid confusion, remember that all ready can be replaced by the word ready in a sentence and it will still make sense. However, you can never use ready in place of already. See the examples below:

Original: We are all ready for the fishing trip tomorrow.

Replaced: We are ready for the fishing trip tomorrow.

Original: She has already gone to school when I arrived to pick her up.

Replaced: She has ready gone to school when I arrived to pick her up.

As you can see from the first example, replacing all ready with the term ready will still deliver the message that we are prepared for tomorrow’s fishing trip. On the other hand, replacing already with just ready in the second example would no longer denote that she has left for school by the time I arrived to pick her up.